GCE Music Technology 2017:
Scheme of Work – Component 3 – 2-year course

Contents

Year One **1**
Year Two 3

Year One

Weeks 1–2	**Introduction to Component 3 exam** ***Technical numeracy should be embedded throughout the course.*** ***Some content for this component may be covered in other areas of the course.*** • As part of the introduction to Component 3, students will be provided with an overview of the component. • Students are made aware of the requirements to fulfil the specification: o This paper comprises two sections: A and B; all questions are compulsory o One audio CD with the unfamiliar commercial recordings to accompany questions on the paper will be provided per student o Section A: Listening and analysing (40 marks) – four questions, each based on unfamiliar commercial recordings supplied by Pearson (10 marks each) o Section B: Extended written responses (35 marks) – two essay questions. One comparison question, which uses two unfamiliar commercial recordings from the CD (15 marks). The second essay uses the final unfamiliar commercial recording on the CD (20 marks)
Weeks 3–7	**Introduction to the Component 3 exam** • Introduction to the Component 3 exam including recording technology eras and command words used in short-answer questions • Basic digital recording theory and attributes of digital equipment • Group/paired research project on a digital processor/instrument • Specimen questions to include microphone theory, level, pan and shelving EQ identification
Weeks 8–14	**Analogue technology and vocal production** • Introduction to analogue technology • Group/paired research project on an analogue recording format

© Pearson Education Ltd 2016

	• Vocal production focus • Specimen questions on any of the capture/mixing or technological processes covered to date
Weeks 15–20	**Detailed exploration of the question paper and focus on analogue synthesisers/electric instruments** • Detailed overview of the question paper – question types and command words used in questions with extended responses • Music styles round-up • Analogue synthesiser and electric instrument research task in groups/pairs • Specimen questions to follow up • Essay question focus – approaches to answers / focus on mark scheme
Weeks 21–26	**Comparing analogue and digital effects** • Comparing analogue and digital effects, e.g. reverb and delay • Comparing production techniques used in different recording technology eras • Specimen questions covering all content covered to date
Weeks 27–33	**Revision and specimen questions** • Revision of all content covered • Specimen questions
Weeks 34–39	**Mock exam, feedback and investigating the A level paper** • Sit mock exam using AS sample assessment materials • Feedback on the mock exam from teacher • Exploring the differences between the AS and A level papers

© Pearson Education Ltd 2016

Year Two

Weeks 1–7	**The impact of digital and sampling technology** • Research task in groups/pairs evaluating the impact of digital technology and sampling on music production, e.g. editing ability, auto-tune, low resolution sampling equipment and their sonic qualities • Advanced digital software and hardware attributes and formats, e.g. GUI, sampling theory and converters, data-bit rate • Specimen questions relating to digital technology and sampling
Weeks 8–14	**The impact of analogue technology** • Research task in groups/pairs evaluating the impact of analogue technology on music production, e.g. sonic qualities, limitations • Analogue effects, e.g. tape-based effects, bucket brigade, vinyl scratching • Analogue synthesisers, e.g. modules and patching • Specimen questions relating to analogue technology and effects/synthesisers
Weeks 15–20	**Identifying effects and their parameters** • Identifying effects, parameters used and their settings within the context of a commercial song, e.g. pumping compression and settings to create the effect • Specimen questions relating to effect identification
Weeks 21–26	**Mixing, mastering and comparing production techniques** • Mixing and mastering for different formats, e.g. vinyl, cassette • Comparing production techniques in different commercially released songs • Students sit whole specimen paper from sample assessment materials and review using peer marking
Weeks 27–33	**Exam technique and revision** • Exam technique – command-word recap; suggested timings for each section/item in the question paper • Revision of all content covered • Specimen questions • Students sit final A level Component 3 exam

© Pearson Education Ltd 2016

© Pearson Education Ltd 2016. Copying permitted for purchasing institution only. This material is not copyright free.